



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

# HEALTH ALERT NETWORK

## Update



TO: Nebraska Healthcare Providers & Laboratories

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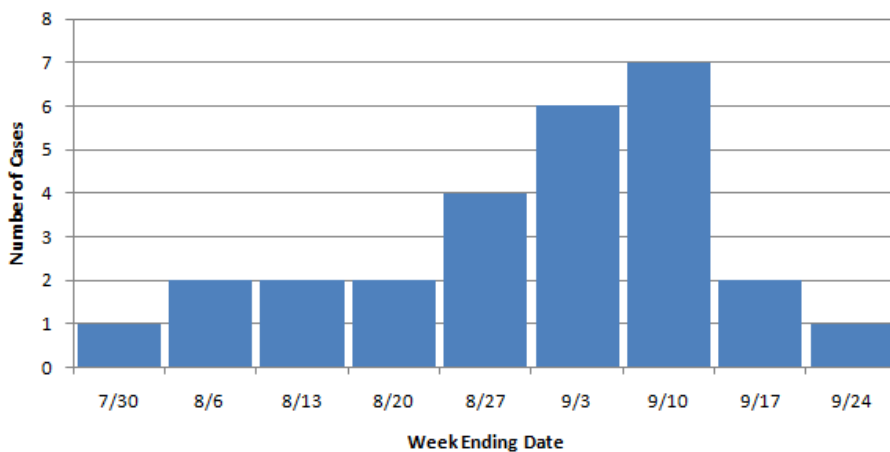
RE: West Nile Virus Testing Discontinuation

DATE: November 1, 2011

Testing for West Nile Virus (WNV) at public health expense will no longer be available for specimens submitted with a collection date of November 1, 2011 forward. For WNV testing, please use your regular reference laboratory for testing from this point forward.

West Nile Virus infections traditionally peak around Labor Day, (9/5/11). This year's WNV season was no exception. WNV peaked during the week ending September 10, 2011. No deaths were attributed to WNV this year. 15 lab-confirmed persons were hospitalized due to WNV. The most cases occurred in the 26 - 50 year old age group.

**Human WNV Clinical Cases, NE, 2011, (n=27)**



### Nebraska Human WNV Cases, 2011

Clinical Positive Individuals	27
Positive Blood Donors	9
Total Positives	36
<b>Clinical Positives Analyzed</b>	
Total Counties Positive	11
<b>Age Range</b>	
1-13	0
14-25	3
26-50	12
51-64	9
65+	3
<b>Male Sex</b>	
Male Sex	15
<b>Female Sex</b>	
Female Sex	12
<b>Diagnosis</b>	
Meningitis/Encephalitis	13
WN Fever	14
Hospitalized	15
Deaths	0

\*cases recorded according to illness onset date